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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/942,641	08/31/2001	Hisashi Ohki	1614.1186	8812

21171 7590 09/21/2004

STAAS & HALSEY LLP  
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1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER
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WU, XIAO MIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2674

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/942,641

Applicant(s)

OHKI ET AL.

Examiner

XIAO M. WU

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/31/2001.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Qureshey et al. (Pub. No. US 2002/0002039).

As to claims 1, 5 and 7, Qureshey discloses an electronic equipment (Fig. 18B), comprising: a main display section (e.g. the main part of the display 1802 as shown in Fig. 18B); an auxiliary display section (1804, 1841-1845) which displays status information (e.g. RADIO, PLAYLIST, FAVORITES, JUKEBOX, CD, INTERNET RADIO) of the electronic equipment; a plurality of buttons (1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825) provided below the auxiliary display section; and a controller (1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, Fig. 18B)) which displays definitions or meaning (1830, 1832, 1834, 1836, 1838) of the plurality of buttons (1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825), within the auxiliary display section at positions (1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845) corresponding to each of the plurality of buttons, depending on an operation mode (e.g. 1804, 1806, 1810, 1812 of Figs. 18B-18, respectively) of the electronic equipment.

As to claim 2, Qureshey discloses the plurality of buttons include one mode selection button (page 15, pp [0167] which instructs the operation mode, and a plurality of application

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buttons (1821-1825) having instructing contents which differ depending on the operation mode (see Fig. 18B, 18D).

As to claim 3, it is noted that Qureshey discloses that the plurality of buttons (1821-1825) are all provided below the auxiliary display section (1841-1845).

As to claims 4, 6 and 8, Qureshey discloses the operation mode includes at least two modes such as a portable recording medium (1854, Fig. 18G) and a news mode (1821, Fig. 20B).

### ***Conclusion***

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The US Patents 4,333,097, 4,823,311, 4,896,370, 5,969,718, 6,498,614, 2001/0028366, 2002/0131803 are cited to teach a plurality of buttons are associated with a display menu selection.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Xiao Wu whose telephone number is (703) 305-4721.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Shalwala Bipin**, can be reached on (703) 305-4938.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

**(703) 872-9306**

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377

xw

September 17, 2004



**XIAO WU**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT 2674**